

Message Text

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R 281913Z JUL 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO CINCPAC
CONGARD
GOVGUAM
TREASURY
XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 177335

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: JULY 25 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA

IN 7/24 APPEARANCE BEFORE SENATE REFUGEE SUBCOMM, EA'S HABIB TERMED FORCED MOVEMENT FROM CITIES IN CAMBODIA "MAJOR HUMAN DISASTER," SAID DOS CONTINUES RECEIVE REPORTS MASS KILLINGS BY KR OF BOTH FORMER ENEMIES, INNOCENT REFUGEES. IN REPLY KENNEDY QUESTION ON US POLICY ON POSSIBLE DIP RELATIONS WITH SVN AND ITS ENTRY INTO UN, HABIB DISCLOSED NVN, VC OBSERVER GROUP WOULD GET VISAS FOR TRAVEL TO UN HQ AND WE ARE KEEPING "OPEN MIND" ON RELATIONS WITH VN (AP, NYDN). HABIB INDICATED ONLY SCATTERED, INCOMPLETE REPORTS OF SEVERITY BY NVN MIL GOVT, AND ASSERTED "CLOAK OF DARKNESS" DESCENDED OVER CAMBODIA. ADDED, FROM AVAILABLE INFO, UNCLASSIFIED

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NO BLOODBATH IN SVN COMPARABLE TO THAT IN CAMBODIA (SUN). WP'S CROCK QUOTES HABIB THAT 10 AMCITS, INCLUDING 6-YR-OLD GIRL AND 2 OFFICIALS, BELIEVED IN CUSTODY SAIGON GOVT. QUOTES DOS' SIEVERTS THAT USG CONCERNED

OVER LACK COMMUNICATION FROM PRISONERS.

NYT CARRIES TEXT OF EXCLUSIVE 7/23 INTERVIEW ITS

WASHINGTON BUREAU HAD IN WHICH PRES ASSESSED FIRST YR. AMONG OTHER THINGS, FORD SAYS SVN, CAMBODIA PROBLEM WASN'T RESOLVED WAY HE WANTED IT. IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS, OPINES MIGHT HAVE BEEN "ANOTHER SOLUTION" IN VN IF US HAD OPPORTUNITY MAKE MIL AID AVAILABLE; OPINES WE SHOULD NOT TRY ESTABLISH PRESENCE, IN LIGHT NVN ATTITUDE TOWARD C-F AND MIA QUESTION, NVN DOMINATION OF SVN, REPORTED MASSACRE OF CIVILIANS IN CAMBODIA. NYT'S INTERVIEWER NAUGHTON NOTES PRES CITED FALL OF NON-COMMUNIST GOVT IN SVN, CAMBODIA, FRUSTRATIONS WITH SEARCH FOR PEACE IN ME AS LARGEST DISAPPOINTMENT OF FIRST YR IN OFFICE. QUOTES FORD THAT "NO POSSIBILITY UNDER CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES" FOR RE-ESTABLISHMENT US PRESENCE IN VN, CAMBODIA.

WP, CHITRIB CARRY AP PHOTO OF PRES ACCEPTING SHIP'S WHEEL FROM MAYAGUEZ SKIPPER. WILLS (SUN, WP) ATTRIBUTES PRES' "SUMMARY ASCENDENCY" TO MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT THAT CAME AFTER COLLAPSE OF SEVERAL ALLIES FOR WHICH FORD COULD NOT BE BLAMED.

OFFICIALS OF NEW CAMBODIAN GOVT MAKE FIRST OFFICIAL CONTACT WITH OUTSIDE WORLD IN MEETING WITH RTG OFFICIALS ON KHMER SIDE OF BORDER; CAMBODIANS PROPOSED SETTING UP DIP RELS (WP).

CSM'S SCHMIDT SAYS KR USES FORCED-LABOR BATTALIONS TO STAVE OFF FAMINE, CREATE AGRIC REVOLUTION, RECAST CAMBODIAN LIFE. USG ANALYSTS DOUBT COMMUNISTS SUCCEED IN AVOIDING FAMINE; ALSO, FEW OBSERVERS SEE ANY SIHANOUK INFLUENCE ON WHAT IS HAPPENING. QUOTES INDOCHINA RESOURCE CENTER THAT EVACUATION OF CITIES AVERTED FOOD CRISIS, CONCENTRATION OF LABOR ON UNCLASSIFIED

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IRRIGATION ENABLES TRANSFORMATION OF CAMBODIA TO 2-CROP-A-YR ECONOMY; AND THAT EFFORT ORGANIZED ALONG LINES LAID OUT BY KHIEU SAMPHAN IN DOCTORAL DISSERTATION DONE AT PARIS ON 50S EMPHASIZING INDEPENDENT ECONOMY RELYING ON OWN RATHER THAN FOREIGN RESOURCES.

AMCIT DIES OF GUNSHOT WOULD RECEIVED DURING ROBBERY ATTEMPT IN VIENTIANE LAST WK (WP). LAOS DECIDES BREAK DIP RELS WITH SK (REUTER, VIENTIANE).

SAIGON GOVT SAYS FIRST UNOFFICIAL DAILY NEWSPAPER SINCE NEW REGIME ASSUMED POWER WILL MAKE APPEARANCE SHORTLY, AT LEAST ONE OTHER WILL BE ALLOWED PUBLISH

(CHITRIB). UPI'S DAWSON AT SAIGON REPORTS FEW AMCITS LEFT HAVE BECOME CURIOUSITIES, MEET NO HARASSMENT,

SURPRISINGLY LITTLE HOSTILITY. FREQUENTLY ASKED IF US WILL ESTABLISH DIP RELS WITH SVN, NVN (WP).

CIA ONCE HAD SVN RC BISHOP ON PAYROLL, ACCORDING FORMER DOS INTELL SPEC JOHN MARKS (AP, WP). GEORGE BALL, BEFORE HOUSE SUBCOM INVESTIGATING CIA, SAID JFK IN 1963 APPROVED CABLE TO AMB LODGE AT SAIGON ORDERING HIM BRING ABOUT DIEM'S OVERTHROW (LAT'S SHANNON IN GLOBE, WP).

MIA WIFE SAYS WOULD RATHER NOT KNOW HUSBAND'S FATE IF INFO RANSOMED WITH US RECONSTRUCTION AID TO NVN (CHITRIB).

2. INDOCHINA REFUGEES

BEFORE KENNEDY SUBCOMM THURSDAY, IATF'S TAFT GAVE RESETTLEMENT ASSESSMENT, SAID SPECIAL COMPUTERIZED SYSTEM FOR JOB-MATCHING BEING DEVELOPED BY LABOR DEPT. ADDED FORMERS, FISHERMEN FINDING ABILITIES IN DEMAND (SUN). OF UNESTIMATED NUMBER VIET FAMILIES RESETTLED IN PA, ESTIMATED 25 RECEIVE WELFARE BENEFITS; IN CALIF, 407 FAMILIES ON RELIEF ROLLS (PHINQ).

GROUP OF 251 VIET REFUGEES WALKS OUT OF CAMP ON GUAM, UNCLASSIFIED

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VOWS SIT IN GOVT OFFICES UNTIL ARRANGEMENTS MADE REPATRIATE THEM. REFUGEES STOPPED BY POLICE, RETURNED TO CAMP (AP, PHINQ), JAILED IN STOCKADE. VIETS OFFERED TOKEN RESISTANCE, NO INJURIES REPORTED. UN REP AT GUAM QUOTES PRG THAT WILL BE SEVERAL WKS BEFORE READY RECEIVE REPATRIATES (UPI, CHITRIB).

3. CHINA

NCNA REPORTS PRC AND SOVIET SIGNED AGREEMENT IN MOSCOW 7/24 ON TRADE AND PAYMENTS FOR 1975. AGENCY REPORTS EVENT WITH FRIENDLY TONE, SAYS VISITING PRC DELEGATION WAS HONORED AT MOSCOW BANQUET THURSDAY NIGHT (REUTER HK).

CHINA RESOURCES CORP APPROVES AGREEMENT BETWEEN PEKING AND HK GOVT ALLOWING PRC "OWN, CONTROL, AND OPERATE" TWO AREAS INSIDE COLONY FOR USE AS OIL STORAGE BASE AND SPUR RAILWAY LINE. LEASE DETAILS NOT YET MADE PUBLIC (CHITRIB).

PEOPLE'S DAILY REPORTS MILITARY COMM OF CCP'S CENTRAL COMM

OFFICIALLY RESUMING WORK IN PEKING AFTER BEING INACTIVE
SEVERAL YEARS (WP).

RADIO PEKING REPORTS MT EVEREST 1 FOOT TALLER THAN
WESTERN RECORDS INDICATE; PRC GEOLOGISTS, SURVEYORS
HAVE COMPLETED NEW MEASUREMENT 29,029.24 FT (PHINQ;
UPI, WP, NYDN).

4. AUSTRALIA

FAST-FOOD BUSINESS COMPETITION ESCALATING RAPIDLY, WITH
3 US GIANTS--PIZZA HUTS, KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN, MCDON-
ALD'S--DOMINATING SCENE. BIG MAC EXPECTS BE NUMBER ONE,
TOPPLING COL SANDERS, WITHIN 2 YRS (STOVE, JOC).

GOA TEMPORARILY BANS WIDE RANGE CLOTHING IMPORTS FROM
SINGAPORE, PHILS, AND THAILAND AFTER NEGOTIATIONS
BREAKDOWN OVER VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT AGREEMENTS. PRES-
SURE FROM DOMESTIC CLOTHING PRODUCERS, TEXTILE INDUSTRY
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UNIONS HAVE CAUSED SIMILAR CUTBACKS ON IMPORTS FROM
HK, SK, PRC, MACAO, ROC (JOC).

5. SEATO

KUKRIT-MARCOS COMMUNIQUE URGING SEATO "PHASING OUT"
ALSO STATES ASEAN "HAS BECOME A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR
CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION." TWO LEADERS EXPRESSED DE-
SIRE TO RETAIN PACIFIC CHARTER SUPPORT FOR "COMMON
ACTION TO MAINTAIN PEACE AND SECURITY IN SEA." PRESS
NOTES PHLS, THAILAND ONLY SEATO MEMBERS LOCATED
IN SEA (UPI, NYDN; WSJ; NYT; WP, IN USIA WIRELESS
FILE). PHINQ REPORTS US EXPRESSED BELIEF, EVEN
BEFORE INDOCHINA FALL, THAT SEATO HAS "ONLY LIMITED
MILITARY VALUE."

6. BURMA

KAMM (NYT) IN RANGOON REPORTS BURMA CHARACTERIZED BY
"PERVASIVE POVERTY" AND "INDIFFERENT MILITARY RULE"
UNDER WHICH BURMESE LIVE WORSE THAN BEFORE INDEPENDENCE.
NOTES GRAVE TRADE IMBALANCE, ESPECIALLY IN RICE, WHICH
ONCE BURMA'S LEADING EXPORT, NOW MUST BE IMPORTED
BRIBERY, ILLEGAL IMPORT MARKET ACCOUNT FOR MUCH OF
COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC, BUREAUCRATIC DIFFICULTIES.

7. KOREA

SEOUL PD FIRED RECORD 103 POLICEMEN THURSDAY,
ON SUSPICION OF TAKING PAYOFFS FROM PICKPOCKET
RINGS; SIXTEEN FIRED TUESDAY ON SAME GROUNDS

(AP, NYDN, WP, PHINQ). PRESENT CRACKDOWN DATES FROM FALL OF SVN, CAMBODIA; SEEN AS PART OF LARGER CAMPAIGN AGAINST "SOCIAL ABSURDITIES" OF BRIBETAKING, ATTEMPTS EMIGRATE WITH FALSE PAPERS, ILLEGALLY CONVERT LOCAL CURRENCY INTO DOLLARS -- OFFENSES PRES PARK SAID HE WILL REGARD "AS GRAVELY AS NATIONAL SECURITY" (NYT SPECIAL).

8. JAPAN

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JOC'S CULLISON IN TOKYO CITES TOYOTA DENIAL THURSDAY OF REP DENT'S CHARGE THAT FIRM DUMPING CARS IN US . SPOKESMAN ADDED JAPANESE DOMESTIC PRICES DENT SAID COULD NOT OBTAIN ARE PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE. AAMA REP IN TOKYO AGREED PRICE DATA AVAILABLE PUBLICLY, OR THROUGH AMEMBASSY; SAID DENT HURT OWN CASE, MAY HAVE HELPED TOYOTA, OTHER FIRMS DEFEND SELVES, "BY GOING OFF HALF-COCKED."

JAPANESE FIRM (SAKALIN OIL DEVELOPMENT CORP) AND DEP HEAD SOV FOREIGN TRADE BANK N. NIKITOKIN THURSDAY INITIALED CONTRACT IN TOKYO FOR JAPAN PROVIDE 100 MILLION DOL CREDIT TO FINANCE OIL EXPLORATION OFF EAST COAST SAKALIN IN EXCHANGE FOR SUPPLY OF OIL, GAS. ROLE OF GULF OIL REMAINS OBSTACLE -- JAPANESE HOPE USE GULF EXPLORATION VESSEL, BUT SOVIET WANTS KEEP AMERICANS OUT OF SAKALIN WATERS FOR SECURITY (JOC, TOKYO).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

9. INDOCHINA

CSM DESCRIBES "THOUGHT REFORM" PROGRAM GOING ON IN SVN, NOTES CONTROL IN SAIGON STILL RESTS WITH MIL GOVT RATHER THAN PRG. CITES NVN, SVN APPLICATION FOR SEPARATE UN MEMBERSHIP, ADDS SK ADMISSION WOULD DOUBTLESS HAVE INFLUENCE ON WHETHER US WOULD VETO VN APPLICATIONS. CONCEDES TRADE-OFFS POLITICALLY UNDERSTANDABLE, BUT SAYS BASIC CRITERION FOR MEMBERSHIP SHOULD BE WHETHER APPLICANT NATIONS SHOWING SUFFICIENT RESPECT FOR UN PRINCIPLES TO MAKE THEM USEFUL, APPROPRIATE MEMBERS (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

IN ARTICLE ON FIRST-TERM REP MCDONALD, ANDERSON/WHITTEN (WP) CLAIM HE DEMANDED AT SECRET HAFC MEETING THAT TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS BE USED/LIBERATE" SVN FROM COMMUNISTS.

10. JAPAN

CSM REPRINTS JAPAN TIMES WEEKLY COMMENT ON WIND-UP OF

SIX-MONTH DIET INVESTIGATION OF TANAKA'S "MONETARY CONNEC-
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TIONS," UNDRAMATIC ENDING OF WHICH IT DESCRIBES AS "CONSISTENT WITH POLITICAL TEMPERMENT IN JAPAN." STATES INVESTIGATION LACKED MOMENTUM AFTER TANAKA RESIGNED PREMIERSHIP, AND LDP DIETMEN CLOSED RANKS TO AVERT PROBE OF SIMILAR ACTIVITY BY SELVES. EXPRESSES HOPE ENTIRE EXPERIENCE WILL RESTRAIN OTHER POLITICIANS FROM MIXING POLITICS AND MONEY-MAKING "AT LEAST LONGER THAN MR. TANAKA'S OWN POLITICAL CAREER."

11. KOREA

CLAYTON FRITCHEY (NYPOST) WELCOMES VIEW EXPRESSED BY HAK IN SIX TALKS TO NATION ON FOREIGN POLICY--THAT US POWER NOT UNLIMITED, AND MEDDLING IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES OFTEN RISKY, DUBIOUS BUSINESS. RECALLS OUR OWN RESENTMENT OF FOREIGN MEDDLING IN REVOLUTION, CIVIL WAR, AND HOW WE TRIED KEEP NVN FROM UNIFYING SVN. STATES WE AGAIN SEEM DETERMINED TO PREVENT UNIFICATION OF N-S KOREA, AND ASKS COULD WE BE AS WRONG AS FOREIGNERS WERE ABOUT US?
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